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Though ordinarily used for wood from  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch in thickness, this machine will plane Venetian-blind laths, or wood 3 inches or 4 inches thick and up to 6 inches wide. When this machine is fed by two lads the pieces of wood leave the machine like a rapid and continuous flight of rockets, and a wooden butt or target is found necessary to stop them from being shot to an inconvenient distance in the factory. In practice it is found advisable to plane the wood in very long pieces, as otherwise it is impossible to feed the machine half fast enough.

### Intercommunication.

THIS department is intended to furnish, for the benefit of all our readers, practical information regarding the art of manipulating wood by hand or machinery; and we trust that every reader of our paper will make the fullest use of it, both in asking and answering. All persons possessing additional or more correct information than that which is given relating to the queries published, are cordially invited to forward it to us for publication. All questions will be numbered, and in replying it will be absolutely necessary, in order to secure due insertion, that the NUMBER and TITLE of the question answered should be given; and in sending questions, the title of key-words of the question should be placed at the head of the paper. Correspondents should in all cases send their addresses, not necessarily for publication, but for future reference. We also request that all questions or answers be written on separate slips of paper, and addressed to the Editor. Notes of practical interest will be welcome at all times. When drawings are sent to illustrate answers to questions, or for full pages, they should be on separate slips, and should be drawn in ink on clean, white paper. Short questions, requiring short answers, may be asked and answered through the agency of postal cards.

When answers to questions are wanted by mail, the querist must send a stamp for return postage.

### Queries.

13. MOULDINGS.—I wish to "stick" some segmental mouldings for sash heads and other purposes. I am aware that in city and town shops where shaping machines are used no difficulty is experienced; but as I have only a small sticker the job seems almost impossible. I am informed, though, that it can be done. Will any of your readers explain, through your answer column, how the trick is performed on a one-head sticker? I wish to "stick" some curved mouldings that will be parallel, and others that will be straight on one edge and concave on the other. A full description of the method by which curved mouldings can be "stuck," on a single-head striker, will be of interest to many of your village and country readers.—PUZZLED.

14. MACHINE CUTTERS.—Can you inform me how to get the shape of moulding cutters for shaping and moulding machines?—B. G.

15. CORNER CUPBOARD.—Will you permit me to ask you, or some of our readers, to publish in the ILLUSTRATED WOOD-WORKER a design for a corner cupboard? The sides of the cupboard must not be more than 18" wide, as there is not space for a greater width. I would like a glass door on it, and about three shelves in it; also an ornamental top, and, if considered in good taste, a central bracket underneath. The designer will place

me under obligation if he will publish a description of it, and name the materials of which it should be made. It is to go in a dining-room where all the furniture and wood-work are of oak. The cupboard must not be more than three feet eight inches high.—AMATEUR.

15. EMBLEMS.—Will some of your readers kindly inform me what the emblems of carpentry and joinery are? I would also be pleased to see a description of the Marquis rule; and please state if they are patented, and where they can be obtained, and at what price.—APPRENTICE.

16. SCALE.—Will you, or any of your correspondents, inform me how to use the diagonal scale found on some of our steel squares, and how to apply it to practical use?—APPRENTICE.

16. SECRETARY.—I wish to make a secretary having drawers on each side under the desk, and a place above for account-books, letters, etc. I wish it quite plain, and made of native woods. Will any of your contributors publish in the WOOD-WORKER such an one?—H. E. THOMAS.

17. CROCKET'S PRESERVATIVE.—Will some of your readers kindly inform me as to what is "Crocket's Preservative," for walls, and how used?—J. W. D.

### Answers.

WE wish it distinctly understood, that we do not hold ourselves responsible for the accuracy or reliability of answers furnished to this department by our correspondents.

We cordially invite our readers to take an active part in this department, as we are confident that much good can be accomplished by a free interchange of ideas and opinions in regard to subjects connected with the art of wood-working.

Many persons are afraid to write to a public journal because of their lack of literary attainments; to such we would say: Give us your ideas in such language as you can command, and leave the rest to us. It is ideas and opinions we want, such as may be of use to the workingman.

6. SCREW-DRIVER.—The handle of a long screw-driver being necessarily greater than that of a short screw-driver, it affords more leverage, hence it drives a screw with greater ease than a short driver with a smaller handle.—TWIST.

6. SCREW-DRIVER.—A long screw-driver blade is much easier to handle, as it permits both hands to come in play. The long blade also acts as an "accumulator of force," inasmuch as it will spring half ways round before the whole force reaches the point, and when held in this position until a second effort is made by the operator, there is nearly a double force employed in turning the screw.—GUESS.

7. MITRE.—I seldom use a mitre-box or templet to cut any moulding except spring mouldings. In laying floors, putting on siding, and many other things, I always "cut" by the eye alone, scarcely ever using a square

or templet of any kind. How will that suit you, "Newark," considering we live in old Mississippi?—A SUBSCRIBER.

7. MITRE.—I have known a number of workmen who could cut a mitre at almost any angle, at sight.—OLD FOREMAN.

8. WARDROBE DESIGN.—Ned will find the wardrobe design on plate 24 of the present number, all he asks for.—ED.

9. MOULDING CUTTERS.—Leave your cutters a "dark straw color," though the temper is dependent somewhat on the quality of the steel. Care must be taken that the irons don't "buckle" while tempering.—OGEET.

10. BRIDGING.—"Herring-bone bridging" is far the best, and does not load the floor unnecessarily.—HAMMER.

10. BRIDGING.—Shrinkage of joists renders solid plank bridging useless. And this fault, to a certain extent, also applies to "herring-bone bridging"; but the latter system is the better one, besides being lighter.—DRAW-KNIFE.

11. GLUE.—You must be mistaken; I think it is impossible to make glue from ordinary mica.—CHEMIST.

11. GLUE.—Our correspondent is "mixed." He probably knows that glue can be made of isinglass, which is the popular name for mica; but the isinglass out of which glue is made is a species of gelatine, prepared from the sounds or air-bladders of a species of sturgeon.—[ED.]

11. GLUE.—"Tenn" must be making fun of somebody. Who ever heard of glue being made from mica; who?—INQUIRER.

12. PAINTING.—One hundred yards of priming will take twenty pounds of white lead and four gallons of oil. One hundred yards, three coats, will take one hundred pounds of lead and sixteen gallons of oil. Three-coat work is worth about 23 cents per yard finished. Two-coat work, about 15 cents per yard, and one-coat work, about 8 cents a yard. The price of white lead of like quality varies one or two cents a pound in different places, so it is difficult to fix a price without knowing the locality where it is purchased. Japan driers are probably the best in the market.—DAUBER.

13. FILLING.—A. P. G. can make a good filling for walnut or chestnut by using colored plaster-of-Paris.—HAND-SCREW.

that we shall soon be required to look for some substantial imitation of the walnut for furniture and ornamental wood-work. This is far from being the case. This city is one of the most important centres for walnut lumber, and, although the demand from every quarter during the past three years has been unprecedented, the supply far exceeds the demand, and walnut lumber was never offered at lower figures than at present. True, the walnut on all old lines of railway is pretty well thinned out, and the price has not been regarded as sufficient inducement to cull it any great distance from railroads.

The three lines of railway which have within the past year or two branched out from this city, pass through forests of this timber, and the Cincinnati Southern Railway alone has been the means of pouring an abundance of the material to supply all home demands, and that at ruinously low figures. One operator, with whom we are acquainted, has lately shipped to this city over 400,000 feet, and much of this was sold at \$18.00 per thousand feet. For this same quality he received four years ago \$40.00.

It is estimated that over 3,000,000 feet of walnut lumber is now lying in this section awaiting shipment as soon as prices will justify. No fears need be entertained that the supply of this valuable wood will fall short of the demand yet for many years to come.—*American Inventor.*

#### Useful Items for Office and Shop.

A HOME-MADE FLOOR-CLOTH.—An American lady says: "Have any of you a spare bedchamber, seldom used, the floor of which you would like to cover at little expense? Go to the paperhanger's store, and select a paper looking as much like a carpet as you can find. Having taken it home, first paper the floor of your bedroom with brown paper or newspapers. Then, over these, put down your wall paper. A good way to do this will be to put a good coat of paste, the width of the roll of paper, and the length of the room, and then lay down, unrolling and smoothing at the same time. When the floor is all covered, then size and varnish; only glue and common dark varnish need be used, and the floor will look all the better for the darkening these will give it. When it is dry, put down a few rugs by the bedside and before the toilet table, and you have as pretty a floor-cloth as you could wish—a floor-cloth, too, that will last for years, if not exposed to constant wear, and at a trifling expense. I myself used a common room one entire summer prepared in this way—used it constantly; and, when the house was sold in the autumn,

#### The Supply of Walnut Lumber for Furniture and Ornamental Work.

THERE is a general impression that the supply of walnut is rapidly fading out, and